



BOROUGH OF BANBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1947



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Mayor—

COUNCILLOR FRANK PARTRIDGE.

Deputy Mayor—

ALDERMAN WILLIAM GEORGE MASCORD.

Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

*Chairman—*COUNCILLOR MRS. M. CHENEY.

*Vice-Chairman—*COUNCILLOR J. TOOLE.

ALDERMAN BLINCOWE

COUNCILLOR HASKINS

ALDERMAN DEACON

COUNCILLOR HEWLINGS

ALDERMAN MASCORD

COUNCILLOR HUNT

COUNCILLOR BRAGGINS

COUNCILLOR MRS. JOHNSON

COUNCILLOR MRS. CHILTON

COUNCILLOR YOUNG

*Town Clerk—*E. OWEN REID.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc. (Oxon), M.D. (St. And.),
D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and

Certified Meat Inspector :

F. APPLEYARD, M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.I.H.(Hons.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector and

Certified Meat Inspector :

W. H. M. EDWARDS, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.
(Resigned March, 1947).

G. RICHARDS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed
May, 1947).

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

R. UPTON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned January, 1947).

Additional Sanitary Inspector and
Certified Meat Inspector :

S. D. COX, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Appointed March, 1947).

Clerks :

R. THOMAS (Chief Clerk).

MISS M. E. OXLEY (Typist).

MISS CASTLE (Clinic).

Health Visitors :

MRS. BRADBURY (Resigned July, 1947).

MISS PORTER (Appointed 1947).

Matron of Maternity Home :

MISS M. TUNSTALL.

Matron of Isolation Hospital :

MISS E. M. COWARD (Resigned June, 1948).

MISS R. MOORE (Appointed 1948).

Rodent Officer :

J. O. HUMPHRIS.

Part-time Medical Officers.

Ante-Natal Clinic :

MARY FRASER, M.D. (Lond.), D.R.C.O.G (Oxon).

Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital :

H. R. WYNNE. B.A. (Cantab), M.B., Ch.B.,

M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).



**To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough during 1947.

The report is prepared in accordance with Circular 170/47 of the Ministry of Health issued on 31st December, 1947.

The Birth Rate in 1947 was 22.22, only very slightly lower than 1946, which was exceptionally high. The Death Rate was 11.02, practically the same as 1946. The Infant Mortality was low—28.87, and the Tuberculosis Death Rate decreased considerably.

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was very much lower, and there were no cases of Diphtheria; there were three cases of Poliomyelitis during the outbreak in the summer of 1947.

Considerable changes in the health administration of the Borough will occur in 1948 as a result of the National Health Service Act 1946. The Isolation Hospital and the Elms Maternity Home will pass to the Regional Hospital Board and the Maternity and Child Welfare services to the County Council.

Housing is at present the most acute public health problem in the Borough. The need for re-housing overcrowded families as well as tenants of unfit houses is most urgent.

There is still only one Health Visitor and one School Nurse in the Borough, leaving one post, that of combined Health Visitor and School Nurse, still vacant. This means that home visits have to be considerably curtailed.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Sanitary Inspector, Health Visitors and Office Staff for their valuable co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,051 acres
Population (1931 Census)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13,953
Population (1947 Estimated Reg. Gen.)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,150
Rateable Value	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£111,120
Product of Penny Rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£447

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1947.

Live Births.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	186	174	360
Illegitimate		...	...	...	14	7	21
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...	...	...	...	200	181	381

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated

Population	...	...	...	...	...	22.22
(England and Wales—20.5)						

Stillbirths.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
RATE per 1,000 (Live and Stillbirths)					...	...	23.62

Deaths.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	...	...	...	...	91	98	189

DEATH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated

Population	...	...	...	...	...	11.02
(England and Wales—12.0)						

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

	Number.	Rate.
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	11	28.87
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	8	20.99
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	3	142.85
(England and Wales—41)		

Causes of Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

Causes : Legitimate :	Intususeption	1
	Gastro-neritise	1
	Streptococcal Meningitis	1
	Prematurity	2
	Broncho-pneumonia	2
	Prolonged Labour	1

Illegitimate : Atalestasis and

Prematurity 3

(2 of these cases died in Hospital at birth; the third died outside the district).

Causes of Deaths, 1947.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	3	6
8. Syphilitic diseases	1	0	1
9. Influenza	1	0	1
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	0	1	1
13. Cancer of buc. cavity and oesophagus (male), uterus (female)	2	2	4
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	6
15. Cancer of breast	0	3	3
16. Cancer of other sites	12	5	17
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	8	23	31
19. Heart disease	22	30	52
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	7	5	12
21. Bronchitis	2	2	4
22. Pneumonia	4	7	11
23. Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1	2
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1	2
27. Other digestive diseases	2	3	5
28. Nephritis	1	2	3

29.	Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	0	1	1
31.	Premature birth	1	1	2
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, etc.	3	2	5
33.	Suicide	2	0	2
34.	Road traffic accidents	2	0	2
36.	All other causes	12	2	14
	Totals	91	98	189

Deaths from—Cancer (all ages)	...	...	30
Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	2

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Staff of the Public Health Department.

A list of members of the Staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of the report.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory work for the Borough is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, in the grounds of the Radcliffe Infirmary. Dr. R. Knox is in charge of the Laboratory.

The following are the details of the work carried out in 1947 :

FAECES	Number examined	43
	Negative	43
OTHER EXAMINATIONS	Total	106
SWABS	Number examined	270
	Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	110
	Positive for Vincent's Angina ...	4
	Negative	156

Water examinations (chemical and bacteriological) are carried out by Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, Birmingham.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

As outlined in previous reports.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

No special facilities exist other than by the District Nurses.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

CLINIC.	PLACE.	TIME.
1. Maternity & Child School Clinic Welfare Clinic	School Warwick Road	Tuesday and Friday 2.30 p.m.
2. Ante Natal Clinic	„	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.
3. School Clinic	„	Each weekday 9 a.m., also Tuesday 2 p.m.
4. Child Guidance	„	Thursday 10.30 a.m.
5. Speech Clinic	„	Wednesday 10 a.m.
6. Eye Clinic	Horton Hospital	Monday 10 a.m.
7. Orthopaedic Clinic	„	Thursdays (1st & 3rd) 2.30 p.m.
8. Tuberculosis Clinic	„	Thursday 1 p.m.
9. V.D. Clinic	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford	Males—Wed. 6 p.m. Sat. 3 p.m. Females—Mon. 6 p.m. Wed. 3 p.m.

(e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.

No change during the year. The Maternity Hospital, The Elms, Oxford Road, Banbury, was opened on 3rd April, 1945, and has 15 beds.

2. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Statistics.

Number of Births notified—528.

(a) Live Births 519. (b) Stillbirths 9. Total 528.

There was one Health Visitor at the end of 1947.

Number of Visits—

- (1) To Expectant Mothers, first visits—48. Total 50.
- (2) To Children under 1 year, first visits—218. Total 257.
- (3) To Children between 1 and 5 years—115.

Number of Children attending Child Welfare Clinic for first time—

- (1) Under 1 year—316.
- (2) Between 1 and 5 years—165.

Total number of Children attending Child Welfare Clinic at end of year—

- (1) Under 1 year—179.
- (2) Over 1 year—302.

(i) Midwifery Service.

Oxfordshire County Council is the local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts 1902-1936.

(ii) Maternity Services.

(a) THE ELMS MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The Maternity Hospital at The Elms, Oxford Road, Banbury, was opened on 3rd April, 1945.

There are 15 beds excluding one Isolation bed and two Labour beds. There were 208 cases admitted during the year, from the Borough and from the County.

The average duration of stay was 14 days. Of these 208 cases, 162 were delivered by midwives and 82 by doctors. In 30 cases medical assistance was sought under the C.M.B. rules. There were 2 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year. 161 infants were wholly breast fed on leaving the Hospital while 56 required supplementary feeding.

(b) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION, WARWICK ROAD.

Arrangements made with the Public Assistance Committee under which the Council accept responsibility for Borough Maternity cases at the Warwick Road Public Assistance Institution still continue. 98 cases were dealt with under the scheme in 1947.

Home Helps.

It is difficult to obtain a suitable supply of home helps in the Borough, but Circular 2729 of the Ministry of Health on this subject has been considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and efforts are being made to obtain women suitable for this work.

Ante Natal Clinic.

This work is carried out by Dr. Mary Fraser, Oxford.

New Cases	160
Subsequent Attendances ...	805
	<hr/>
Total	965

This makes an average of 18.9 patients per clinic and the average number of attendances 5.7 per patient.

The number of post-natal cases attending is still small, 11 having attended in 1947.

In any cases where difficulty was anticipated the patient was referred to her own doctor.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—4 cases occurred during the year.

Maternal Deaths.—There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Day Nurseries.

There is now only one War-Time Nursery functioning in the Borough at the People's Park. This Nursery accommodates 40 children. Medical Inspections are carried out at frequent intervals. Practically all the children are immunised for Diphtheria either before or shortly after admission.

Dental treatment will be provided by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Illegitimate Children.

There were 21 illegitimate births during the year. Of these 3 died before reaching the age of one year. This represents an Infant Mortality Rate of 142.8 per 1,000 as against 20.99 for legitimate children.

Under Circular 2866 of the Ministry of Health the work of visiting these mothers from the social aspect is carried out in conjunction with the Oxfordshire County Council by the Oxford Diocesan Social Welfare Worker.

Premature Children.

As required by Circular 20/44 of the Ministry of Health, Notification of Births Acts now provide for records of the weight of the child at birth. 14 babies were recorded with weights under 5½ lbs. in 1947. There were 2 deaths, one at home and one in hospital—both occurred in the first 24 hours.

Arrangements for Institutional Treatment exist at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

2 cases were notified in 1947.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939. Sec. 7.

No cases were notified during the year.

(iii) Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.

No definite arrangements have been made by the Local Authority.

(iv) Health Visitors.

There was only one Health Visitor and one School Nurse at the end of 1947. Repeated advertisements have failed to provide suitable applicants. Under the County Council scheme, 4 Health Visitors are to be provided for the Borough.

(v) Child Life Protection.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936. SEC. 206-220.

The Health Visitors act as Child Protection Visitors under the above Act. There were 3 children under supervision in the care of foster mothers at the end of the year.

(vi) Arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic Treatment, etc.

(a) DENTAL TREATMENT.

On account of the shortage of Dentists in the Borough it has been difficult so far to arrange dental treatment:—(a) for expectant mothers, (b) for children under 5, and (c) for children

at the Day Nursery. This will be provided by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(b) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

The Orthopaedic Clinic is held at the Horton General Hospital under Mr. J. Scott, F.R.C.S. Eng., of the Wingfield Morris Orthopaedic Hospital, Oxford.

Pediculosis.

With reference to Circular 2831 of the Ministry of Health on this subject, the same facilities are available for children under 5 as in the case of school children. The Health Visitors include the examinations of children's heads as part of their duties both in the homes and at the Clinic. D.D.T. preparations are now being used with considerable success.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

Water for the Borough was, up to the end of 1946, supplied by the Banbury Water Company but, during that year, a Bill was passed by Parliament under which the Town Council acquired the undertaking as from the 1st January, 1947. (Banbury Corporation Act, 1946).

The water supply is from the River Cherwell at Grimsbury and the Sor Brook at Adderbury, it is treated by sand and mechanical filters and is also chlorinated. During 1947 the supply was constant and sufficient.

During the year, 60 samples of water were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination. All were reported to be satisfactory and suitable for a public supply.

With the exception of a few houses on the outskirts of the town all are on the public supply. In two of those cases, samples were taken of well and spring water serving 17 houses and, at the time of preparing this report, work is in progress for laying on town's water to all these houses.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

No important works were carried out during the year except the extension of sewers in connection with the Corporation's housing programme. Drainage repairs and improvements carried out under the supervision of the Department during 1947 included :—

Drains cleared of obstruction	...	51
Drains repaired or relaid	... ..	22
Soilpipes repaired	... ..	3
New gullies fixed	... ..	13
Inspection chambers provided	... ..	5

3. Rivers and Streams.

The Thames Conservancy Board exercises general supervision over the rivers and streams in the Borough. The watercourses conveying storm water received attention from the Sanitary Inspector during the year, and a large amount of cleansing of watercourses was carried out.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Practically all the dwelling-houses in the Borough are provided with water closets except a few on the extreme outskirts of the town where the water carriage system is not available. Improvements to closet accommodation carried out as a result of the work of the Sanitary Inspector were :—

New water closets provided	...	7
W.C. compartments repaired	...	78
W.C. compartments cleansed	..	28
W.C. pedestals provided	... ..	168
W.C. cisterns provided	... ..	60
Privy converted to Elsan closet	...	1
Elsan closets provided	... ..	8

5. Public Cleansing.

This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor and has been well maintained during the year.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Particulars of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector at the end of this report.

SECTION D

HOUSING.

1. Unfit Houses.

The housing position in the Borough generally leaves much to be desired and, owing to the war, the position has deteriorated very considerably owing to the shortages of labour and materials. It will be necessary, as early as possible, to deal with several areas as Clearance Areas and with several individual unfit houses by demolition. In addition, a large amount of repair and reconditioning work is required to houses in the town. The routine inspection of working-class houses was continued during 1947 and notices, on a modified scale, were served upon the owners requiring the remedying of urgent defects. 226 inspections were made under this heading and in one case the Corporation carried out the work in default of the owner. A good deal of work was carried out during the year as will be seen from the table in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. In addition to work under the Housing Act, the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, were extensively used during 1947 to secure abatement of urgent nuisances at many houses in the Borough.

2. Overcrowding.

The position detailed in the 1946 report still obtains and there are still many families living in lodgings, thus causing a good deal of overcrowding. Although no precise data is available, it is evident that there is some serious overcrowding in the Borough and the need for re-housing should be borne in mind by the Corporation in considering their future housing commitments. The provision of houses by the Corporation is helping to relieve some of the overcrowding in the Borough, and several of the worst cases have now been relieved, but many more cases still need attention.

SECTION E

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

(2) Milk Supply.

The supervision of the town's milk supply has been given much attention by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year. 123

visits of inspection were made to cowsheds and dairies and 3 premises were improved during the year—15 defects and contraventions being remedied on request. There are at present on the register :—

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	11
Cowkeeper Retailers	...	...	...	...	2
Retailers only	...	...	...	...	7

In addition, the following licences were granted during the year under the Milk (Special Designations) Order :—

Pasteurisers' Licences	...	...	...	2
Dealers' Licences (T.T. Milk)	...	...	...	3
Dealer's Licence (Accredited Milk)	...	...	...	1
Dealer's Licence (Pasteurised Milk)	...	...	...	1
Bottling Licences (T.T. Milk)	...	...	...	2

Routine milk sampling was continued during 1947, and the following table shows the number and results of the samples taken. All samples were examined by the methylene blue and coliform tests except the pasteurised milks, which were subjected to the phosphatase test and the methylene blue test :—

Type of Milk.		Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Total
Tuberculin Tested	...	17	5	22
Pasteurised	...	52	2	54
Accredited	...	3	6	9
Raw Milk	...	25	10	35
		97	23	120
		—	—	—

In view of the fact that little sampling work was carried out during the war years, the above results can be described as fairly good. This work is being continued during 1948, and improvement has resulted from the work done.

(b) Meat Inspection.

During 1947 every animal slaughtered in the Borough was inspected prior to sale and the increased efficiency of the meat inspection service is due to the appointment of a second additional

Sanitary Inspector during 1946.

During the year the carcasses, parts of carcasses and offal detailed in the table below were condemned and surrendered :—

	Cattle		Sheep		Pigs		Calves	
Total number of Animals slaughtered ...	1559		7274		196		1629	
Carcasses Condemned :	No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight
Tuberculosis ...	30	12891	—	—	—	—	1	33
Other Diseases ...	40	14833	44	1577	3	364	11	433
Totals (A) ...	70	27724	44	1577	3	364	12	466
Parts of Carcasses, Organs and Offals :								
Offal ...	70	6814	44	271	3	9	12	98
Livers ...	547	6775	135	307	1	3	2	3
Meat ...	—	3441	—	288	—	33	—	29
Lungs ...	221	2052	604	740	11	35	1	10
Heads ...	122	3519	—	—	7	81	4	34
Tongue ...	84	569	—	—	1	1	—	—
Head & Pluck ...	—	—	6	81	—	—	—	—
Sweetbreads ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spleen ...	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripe ...	131	2612	—	—	2	16	—	—
Kidneys ...	10	30	2	2	—	—	2	3
Mesentery Fat ...	15	241	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals (B) ...	1203	26059	731	1669	25	178	21	177
Total Weights (A) & (B) in pounds ...	1273	53783	835	3246	28	542	33	643

(c) Other Foods.

TINNED FOODS.

Tinned Meat	...	...	...	380 Tins
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	291 Tins
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	193 Tins
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	909 Tins
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	640 Tins
Tinned Jam	...	...	...	81 Tins
Tinned Puddings	...	...	...	14 Tins

WET FISH.

Cod	428 lbs.	Haddock	42 lbs.
Crabs	28 stones	Lobsters	20 lbs.
Gurnards	62 stones	Kippers	28 lbs.
Dabs	110 lbs.	Plaice	8 stones

SUNDRIES.

Corn Flakes (pkts)	17 lbs.	Fish Cakes	72
Cocoa	1015 lbs.	Soup	24 tins
Cheese (Macaroni)	4 lbs.	Syrup	9 tins

(d) Food Premises.

The routine inspection of all food premises was given close attention during 1947 and 69 premises were improved as a result of requests by the Sanitary Inspectors. The details of this work are set out in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report. Thirteen samples of ice-cream were taken during 1947, 8 being classed as satisfactory and 5 as not satisfactory.

SECTION F**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.****Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the Year 1947.**

(Civilians only)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	39	33	—
Measles	205	3	—
Whooping Cough	40	—	—
Erysipelas	4	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Pneumonia	1	—	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	3	3	—
Totals	297	43	11

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Age over	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
and under	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	—
Disease												
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	2	10	11	7	5	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	19	10	30	47	89	7	—	2	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Whooping Cough ...	3	4	8	4	2	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	4	23	18	38	51	119	19	7	11	4	2	1

Scarlet Fever.

39 cases occurred in 1947 (compared with 83 in 1946). 33 were treated at the Borough Isolation Hospital, and 6 isolated at home. 21 cases occurred in school children, 4 under school age, and 14 in adults.

Poliomyelitis.

4 cases occurred during the outbreak in August, 1947. In one instance the diagnosis was not confirmed. The remaining three all occurred in close proximity in the Grinsbury area, two cases occurring in the same home. There were two children and one adult. All recovered without residual paralysis.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

3 cases occurred, two of which were at the Elms Maternity Hospital.

Measles.

205 cases occurred. 70 occurred during the first three months of the year, the remaining 135 were part of a larger out-

break which started in November. Few complications were reported. 3 cases were admitted to hospital on account of bronchopneumonia. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria.

No cases occurred during the year. 7 cases were admitted to hospital for observation. All proved to be suffering from tonsillitis.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following are the numbers immunised in 1947 :—

Under 5	...	...	...	46
Schoolchildren	...	...	...	8
Reinforcing Injections	...	...	...	184

The low figures can to some extent be attributed to lack of adequate staff as there was only one Health Visitor available during the year.

Tuberculosis.

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary ^a		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 to 5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
5 to 15	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
15 to 25	6	5	1	0	0	2	0	0
25 to 35	3	3	0	2	1	1	0	0
35 to 45	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 to 55	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
55 to 65	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
65 & over	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	18	10	4	4	3	3	0	0

Death Rate per 1,000 from Tuberculosis :—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Banbury	0.35	0.00
England and Wales	0.47	0.08

Isolation Hospital.

The following are the number of cases dealt with during the year 1947 :—

Disease	Banbury Borough	Banbury R.D.C.	Other Areas	Total
Scarlet Fever	33	7	—	40
Erysipelas	3	—	—	3
Diphtheria	7	1	—	8
Impetigo	4	—	—	4
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	2
Enteritis	2	—	—	2
Rubella	2	—	—	2
Para-typhoid	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	1	3	—	4
Chicken Pox	2	2	—	4
Mumps	—	—	1	1
Measles	3	2	—	5
Streptococcal Infection	1	—	—	1
Totals	62	16	1	79

All of the diphtheria cases proved to be cases of tonsillitis. One case of poliomyelitis proved not to be suffering from the disease and the dysentery case also proved negative.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
of the Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL
REPORT, 1947.**

I have pleasure in submitting my second annual report which records the work of your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1947.

Good progress has been made generally during the year in improving the sanitary conditions of the Borough, and special attention has again been paid to the repair and improvement of dwelling-houses, the supervision of the town's food supply and to work under the Shops Acts and the Factories Act.

Records of the various inspections made, notices served and improvements effected are set out in the following tables, and it will be seen that good progress has been made during the year under review in all phases of our work.

The continuity of the work of the Department was somewhat interrupted during the year by Staff changes. The two Additional Sanitary Inspectors (Mr. R. Upton and Mr. W. H. M. Edwards) left the service of the Corporation during the year on obtaining similar appointments in other towns, and I must record the good service given to the Borough by these two officers. Changes on the clerical staff also occurred during the year.

In submitting this report, I should be failing in my duty if I did not record my sincere appreciation of the support I have at all times received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and the other Chief Officers of the Corporation.

Finally, I must commend my own staff for their excellent work throughout a busy year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

F. APPLEYARD, M.R.S.I.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1947.

(1) Visits and Inspections Made.

Houses Public Health Act	1187
Houses—Housing Act	94
Houses—Re Infectious Diseases ...	108
Complaints received and investigated ...	488
Drainage inspections and tests	74
Canal Boats	36
Tents, Vans and Sheds	195
Streams and Watercourses	22
Stables and Piggeries	22
Rats and mice infestation	12
Factories and workplaces	90
Bakehouses	115
Vacant land and refuse dumps	47
Public conveniences	13
Shops—under Shops Acts	342
Verminous premises	9
Restaurants and public-houses	88
Housing applications investigated ...	58
Interviews with owner and builders, etc.	587
Re-visits to premises under notice ...	6801
Slaughterhouse	606
Butchers' shops	213
Fried fish shops	15
Dairies and cowsheds	123
Ice-cream premises	129
Other food shops and food premises ...	413
Public Markets—re food inspection ...	76
Sampling Visits—Milk 120, Water 11,	
Ice-cream 13	144
Miscellaneous visits and inspections ...	198

Total visits made ... 12305

(2) Notices Served and Complied With.

	Out- standing	Served	Complied with	Out- standing
	31.12.46	1947	1947	31.12.47
Public Health Act—Informal ...	166	870	949	87
Public Health Act—Formal ...	101	391	327	165
Housing Act—Informal ...	9	23	10	22
Housing Act—Formal ...	9	3	8	4

Factories Act—Informal	... 18	14	26	6
Shops Act—Informal	... —	13	9	4
Food & Drugs Act—Informal	... 17	41	30	28
Milk & Dairies Order—Informal	4	2	4	2
Canal Boats Regulations	... 4	1	4	1
Totals	... 328	1358	1367	319

(3) Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied.

(a) Dwelling-houses.

Roofs repaired or renewed	... ..	274
External walls repointed, etc.	... ..	46
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	... ..	232
Floors repaired or renewed	... ..	53
Windows and sashcords repaired or renewed	... ..	262
Cooking ranges and fireplaces repaired or renewed	... ..	36
Coppers provided or repaired	... ..	30
Sinks provided or repaired	... ..	37
Overcrowding abated	... ..	44
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	... ..	191
Water supplies provided or repaired	... ..	103
Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	... ..	164
Stairs, doors and woodwork repaired	... ..	69
Food stores provided	... ..	2
Chimney and stacks repaired	... ..	32
Yard paving repaired or relaid	... ..	25
Dampness abated	... ..	179
Handrails provided in staircases	... ..	21
Additional light and ventilation provided	... ..	8
Miscellaneous repairs	... ..	7

(b) Drainage.

Drains cleared of obstructions	... ..	39
Drains repaired or relaid	... ..	18
Inspection chambers provided	... ..	3
Soil pipes repaired	... ..	3
New gullies fixed	... ..	6

(c) Water Closets, etc.

New water closet provided	... ..	1
W.C. compartments repaired and cleansed	... ..	59

W.C. pedestals renewed	148
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed ...	57
Privy converted to Elsan closets ...	1
Urinals repaired	2
Elsan closets provided	3

(d) Dustbins.

New dustbins provided	135
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(e) Miscellaneous.

Offensive accumulations removed ...	10
Nuisance from animals abated	6
Verminous premises disinfested	3
Ditches cleared	2
Well cleansed	1

(f) Shops Acts.

Additional W.C. provided	1
New W.C. pedestals, etc., provided ...	7
W.C.s cleansed and lighting improved ...	2
Drains repaired or cleared	10
New gullies fixed	7
Inspection chambers provided	2
Washing accommodation improved ...	2
Yard redrained and relaid	1
Rooms redecorated	3
Additional light provided	3
Heating facilities improved	2
Structural defects remedied	6

(g) Dairies and Cowsheds.

Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed ...	5
Dairies cleansed and limewashed ...	3
Accumulations of refuse moved	3
Yard surface repaired	1
Drainage repairs	1
W.C.s repaired and cleansed	2

(h) Factories and Bakehouses.

New W.C.s provided	4
New W.C. pedestals provided	3
W.C.s cleansed	9
W.C.s repaired	3
Doors provided to W.C.s	2

W.C. properly screened	1
Urinal provided	1
Wash basins provided, etc.	4
Rooms cleansed and redecorated ...	31
Cloakroom provided	1
Structural repairs	15
Drainage repairs	3
Lighting improved	2
Dustbins provided	3
Accumulations of refuse removed ...	2
Fuel container provided	1

(i) Restaurants and Public-Houses.

New W.C. provided	1
New W.C. pedestals provided	10
W.C. compartments repaired	4
W.C. fittings renewed	3
W.C.s cleansed	5
Cafes, kitchens & food stores redecorated	21
Dustbins provided	4
Structural repairs	5
Accumulations of refuse removed ...	2
Hot water provided	2
Food stores provided	1
Yard and drains cleared	2
Urinals repaired	5

(j) Food Shops and Food Premises.

Shops, stores, and preparation rooms redecorated	31
Refrigerators cleansed	3
Sinks provided	3
Hot water provided	4
Washing accumulations improved ...	5
Cold water supply provided	1
W.C.s cleansed and repaired	10
Structural repairs	12
Additional light and ventilation provided	2
New benches provided	6
Ovens, etc. cleansed	2
Unsatisfactory preparation rooms closed	1
Accumulations of refuse removed ...	2

(k) Tents, Caravans and Sheds.

Caravans, etc. removed from unlicensed sites	48
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(1) Canal Boats.

Canal Boats properly marked	2
Registration certificates produced	3

(4) Complaints.

During the year, 304 complaints were received in the Department with reference to the following matters :—

Defective water closets ...	...	...	75
Defective house roofs ...	...	...	34
Offensive smells ...	...	...	17
Choked or defective drains ...	...	...	34
Burst water pipes ...	...	...	14
Defective dustbins ...	...	...	10
Accumulations of refuse ...	...	...	4
Verminous premises ...	...	...	9
Keeping of animals ...	...	...	3
Defective sinks ...	...	...	8
Flooding of cellars, etc. ...	...	...	7
Overflowing cesspools	2
Re van dwellings	1
General housing defects	86
<hr/>			
			304
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In each case, an investigation was made as promptly as possible into the subject of the complaint and, where the Department had power to intervene, the necessary action was taken. The number of complaints received during the year shows that the public is making good use of services of the Department.

(5) Refuse Storage Accommodation.

The provision of satisfactory refuse storage accommodation to premises in the Borough is a matter which has again received some attention during 1947 and, as a result of notices served, 135 new dustbins have been provided to replace worn-out or other unsatisfactory receptacles. I must again state that, in my opinion, the position in regard to dustbins will remain unsatisfactory until the Local Authority take over the ownership of all dustbins in the Borough and, at some future date, the Corporation should seriously consider the advisability of using their powers to do this.

(6) Factories Act, 1937.

During 1947, the survey of factories and bakehouses in the town was continued and several premises were surveyed, recorded and added to the register. Efforts were again made to bring the

factories and bakehouses up to the standard required by the Act, and in spite of difficulties of labour and materials, many improvements were effected as will be seen from the table on page 24 of this report. 205 inspections were made at factories and bakehouses during the year, 28 premises were improved at the request of the Department and work was outstanding at 6 premises at the end of the year.

(7) Shops Acts.

Considerable attention was given to the inspection of shops under the provisions of the Shops Acts during 1947, particularly with regard to the "health and comfort" provisions. A new register of shops is being prepared and 342 inspections were recorded during the year. Improvements were carried out at 16 shops—details of this work being recorded on page 24 of this report. It is anticipated that a complete register of shops will be completed during 1948.

(8) Van Dwellings.

During the period of Banbury Fair, 73 van dwellings were inspected in the Borough. The caravans, generally speaking, were found to be clean and well kept and no cases of infectious diseases were discovered. The occupants of the 73 vans consisted of 70 adult males, 86 adult females and 58 children. During 1947, the policy of removing caravans from unlicensed sites in the Borough continued and, after a considerable amount of trouble, 48 vans and other structures were removed from 4 separate sites at Turners Field, Station Road, Middleton Road, and East Street. Towards the end of the year, two other small colonies of caravans were being dealt with, and I hope in my next annual report, to be able to state the Borough has been cleared of van dwellings, used for human habitation. The Corporation is to be congratulated on the firm attitude it has adopted on this question.

(9) Canal Boats.

The number of canal boats inspected during the year was 36 (including 11 motor propelled boats). No boats were found to be carrying offensive cargoes. The total number of persons for which the cabins were registered was 102 (Aft cabins 100, Fore cabins 2) and the boats were occupied by 27 adult males, 29 adult females and 14 children—a total of 70 persons. One boat found to be infringing the Regulations and a notice was served upon the owners concerned. Four notices—served during 1946—were complied with during 1947. No cases of infectious diseases were met with on any of the boats inspected.

(10) Infectious Diseases and Disinfection.

During 1947, the Sanitary Inspectors made 108 visits of enquiry into notified cases of infectious diseases and a report on each case was submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. As a result of the occurrence of infectious diseases, 77 houses were disinfected during the year. Three cases of infestation by vermin were dealt with by the Department during the year, and, in addition, a quantity of D.D.T. insecticide and powder was supplied to several residents to enable them to undertake such work themselves.

(11) Steam Disinfection.

A total of 1402 articles of clothing, bedding, etc., were disinfected by steam during the year under review. Of these, 948 articles were disinfected on behalf of the Horton General Hospital and 454 were from other sources. The disinfector dealt with 115 fillings during 1947 as compared with 157 fillings during 1946.

(12) Rats and Mice Destruction—Infestation Order, 1943.

The work of rodent control and eradication was continued very satisfactorily during 1947. From 1st April, 1947, Mr. J. O. Humphris, the Rodent Officer, became a full-time officer of the Corporation instead of dividing his time equally between the Borough and the Banbury Rural District Council. The new arrangement proved most satisfactorily and has allowed more systematic inspection of the area with correspondingly increased efficiency of the service. The following is a summary of the work done during the year as compared with the previous year.

(a) Surface Infestation.

	1947	1946
No. of complaints received during year	154	115
No. of premises inspected for rats & mice	1591	439
No. of revisits made	1720	1363
No. of premises cleared of rats and mice	508	329
Amount of bait laid:—		
Pre-bait	627 lbs.	391 lbs.
Poison bait	234 lbs.	207 lbs.
No. of treatments by gas	6	2
No. of times traps used	26	21
Actual number of rat bodies found ...	868	900

(b) Sewer Infestation.

During the four weeks ended 2nd October, 1947, the second maintenance treatment of the sewers in the Borough was carried out. This work entailed the pre-baiting of 211 sewer manholes and, as in 84 instances pre-bait takes occurred, the poison baiting

of 84 manholes. The result of this work together with the results of previous treatment is given below :—

		1947	1946	1944
No. of manholes baited ...	...	211	240	241
No. of pre-bait takes ...	...	84	73	94

A further treatment of the Corporation sewers is scheduled to take place in January, 1948.

(13) Meat Inspection.

As in previous years, all animals intended for human food were slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse in Swan Close Road, Banbury, and, once again, I am able to record the continued good relationship which exists between your Inspectors and the Ministry Officials there. During 1947, 10,658 animals were slaughtered and the carcase and offal in every case was inspected before it reached the public. 129 carcasses and all organs were entirely condemned and 2040 parts of carcasses, organs, etc. were also rejected as being unfit for human food. The total weight of meat and offal found to be unfit during 1947 was 26 tons as compared with nearly 19 tons in 1946. The benefit of the services of the second additional Sanitary Inspector, appointed in May 1946, is reflected in the increased efficiency of the meat inspection service of the Borough.

(14) Other Foods.

A large quantity of canned food, etc., was inspected at the request of food retailers during the year and full details of such foods condemned will be found on page 16 of the Medical Officer of Health's report.

(15) Food Premises.

The routine inspection of food premises in the Borough was continued during 1947 and improvements were effected at several premises as shown below :—

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. improved during 1947</i>			
Butchers' Shops	11
Bakehouses	15
General food shops and food premises	13
Cafes and Restaurants	15
Public Houses	15

The details of the work done is set out on page 25 of this report and I must record the general willingness of the food

traders of the Borough to comply with our requests and must express my thanks for their co-operation with us in our efforts to improve the conditions under which food is sold, prepared or stored.

(16) Ice Cream.

Following the coming into operation of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations on 1st May, 1947, circulars were sent out to all persons engaged in the sale or manufacture of ice cream giving them details of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations. In addition, all ice cream premises on the register were inspected when it was found that 5 persons were engaged in the manufacture and sale of ice cream and 14 persons were retailing the commodity. Opportunity was taken, during these inspections, to explain the requirements of the new Regulations and to answer any queries in regard to them. 129 inspections of ice cream premises were made during the year and 13 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for examination with the following results :—

Samples classed as Grade 1 ...	3	}	Satisfactory.
Samples classed as Grade 2 ...	5		
Samples classed as Grade 3 ...	2	}	Not Satisfactory.
Samples classed as Grade 4 ...	3		

It is interesting to note that the last sample taken during the year from each manufacturer and each retailer came within Grade 1 and 2 and were thus, satisfactory. The new Regulations have had the effect of tightening up control of the ice cream business but, as mentioned in my last report, the absence of a legal standard for ice cream is still to be deplored as the standard we are at present working on is merely of an advisory character. In connection with ice cream, I have again to record the good co-operation which exists between the traders and your Officers.

(17) Milk Control.

The expected transfer of the powers of supervision of milk production from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture had not taken place at the end of the year, consequently the supervision of milk production and distribution was again given close attention by your Inspectors during 1947. 123 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made during the year and 3 premises were improved on the Department's request—15 defects and contraventions being remedied as a result. The owners of an unsatisfactory dairy were persuaded to obtain other and more

commodious premises during the year and it is anticipated that the new premises will be in occupation early in 1948. The routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination was continued during 1947 and out of 120 samples taken, 97 were reported to be satisfactory. The corresponding figures for 1946 were 81 samples taken and 64 satisfactory. The two pasteurisation plants were kept under close supervision during the year and out of 54 samples examined, 52 were satisfactory. One new cow-keeper was registered during the year and two new licences to retail Tuberculin Tested milk were granted. Following consideration of the matter by the Health Committee, Tuberculin Tested milk was supplied to the Corporation's Isolation Hospital and Maternity Home instead of ungraded milk during 1947.

(18) Cafes and Restaurants.

A survey of cafes and restaurants in the Borough was carried out during the year and it was found that 24 such premises were in use. As a result of notices served by the Department, improvements were effected at 15 premises, where 37 defects were remedied. 8 premises, however, were found to have major defects, which, at the present time, it is impossible to remedy, and these premises will receive attention when the present difficulties as regards labour and materials are resolved. In the meantime, the attention of the proprietors of unsatisfactory cafes has been called to their possible future liability to provide more suitable premises as opportunity arises.

(19) Housing.

The difficulty of getting repairs carried out to houses in the Borough increased during the year but, in spite of shortages of labour and materials, every effort was made to secure the execution of urgent repairs and a considerable amount of work was carried out as a result of the Department's efforts. The provisions of both the Public Health Act and the Housing Act were extensively used to secure the abatement of nuisances and the remedying of defects and a total of 1,187 houses were inspected under the Public Health Act and 94 houses under the Housing Act during 1947. As a result of these inspections, 893 informal notices and 394 formal notices were served and 959 informal notices and 336 formal notices were complied with during the year. Repairs were carried out at 632 houses during the period under review and 278 notices remained unremedied at the close of the year. Details of matters remedied are set out in the tables on pages 22, 23 and 24 of this report.

The deterioration in the condition of the low standard houses in the Borough is a matter of some concern but every effort is being made to keep such houses going until they can be dealt with by slum clearance schemes or demolition orders. The Corporation will, as soon as conditions allow, be faced with a good deal of slum clearance work, reconditioning of houses and the abatement of overcrowding, and the continual neglect of working class properties, is likely to increase this problem. The housing conditions in the town are, at present, very unsatisfactory and I personally am of the opinion that the maintenance with the existing properties is a matter of equal importance with the building of new houses and regret that the provision of new houses is, at present, the only priority so far as housing is concerned.

F. APPLEYARD, M.R.S.I.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

April, 1948.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

(1) Anthrax and Sheep Scab.

No outbreaks of anthrax or sheep scab were reported during the year 1947.

(2) Swine Fever.

No outbreak of swine fever was reported in pigs on premises within the Borough during the year 1947.

(3) Foot and Mouth Disease.

No outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease occurred during the year in which the Borough was included.

(4) Movement of Swine.

The number of licences issued during the year, authorising the movement of swine from the Cattle Market to private premises was 1,225, involving the movement of 4,746 animals. No contraventions of the Movement of Swine Regulations took place.

(5) Importation of Animals.

No licences were received during the year authorising the movement of Irish cattle from the Landing Place to the Cattle Market.

(6) Sheep Dipping.

The number of sheep dipped in the Borough during the year was 1,385 (First Dipping 769; Second Dipping 616). In addition, 959 Kent Sheep and Lambs were licensed to the Cattle Market for sale, all of which had been previously double-dipped, and the Inspectors of the districts to which these sheep were removed were notified and particulars of the dipping given.

(7) Transit of Animals—Cleansing and Disinfection of Vehicles.

During the year 1947, 2,711 vehicles used for the conveyance of animals were cleansed and disinfected, an average weekly number of 54, for a 50 weeks period. The comparative figures for 1946 being: 2,758 with an average of 54 weekly.

No markets were held on the following dates for reasons stated :—

March 6th Blizzard.

December 25th Christmas Day.

F. APPLEYARD, M.R.S.I.,

*Inspector under the Disease of Animals Acts
and Orders.*

